

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

## FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

May 2005



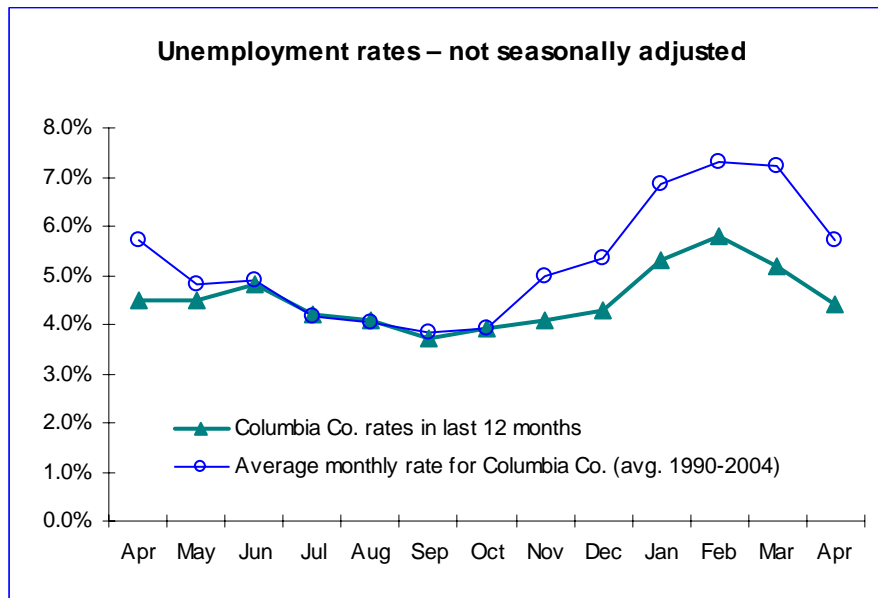
### Has spring sprung?

In April, **Columbia County's** unemployment rate remained lower than its typical March level, but it declined more slowly than it usually does in April, so it was not as far below its typical level as it was between January and March.

**Dane County's** unemployment rate remained slightly above its typical April level, but followed the typical spring trend of being lower in April than in March. The **Madison Metropolitan Statistical Area** (which now includes Columbia, Dane and Iowa counties) saw the professional and business service employment estimate continue to build on strong growth seen throughout 2005. The construction employment estimate slumped in December and remains

well below year-ago levels. Last August, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was 2,300 jobs or 7.4 percent above its August 2003 level; this April the esti-

employment rate was closer to normal than it has been at any point in the last 12 months. Retail & wholesale trade employment estimates picked up more slowly in the



January through March period of 2005 than the same period last year. April's retail & wholesale trade employment estimate shows more resilience. The construction employment estimate did not bounce back as completely as the retail &

mate is just 100 jobs or 0.4 percent above its April 2004 level.

Just 0.3 percent above its typical April level, **Dodge County's** un-

wholesale trade employment estimate, but looked firmer than retail & wholesale employment estimates for February or March.

### Labor force estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			South Central			Columbia County			Dane County		
	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	3,032,600	5,300	-13,400	443,500	3,000	620	31,100	140	70	282,600	2,700	520
Employed	2,888,900	26,700	1,000	427,600	5,600	1,830	29,800	400	110	274,100	3,600	990
Unemployed	143,600	-21,400	-14,400	15,900	-2,700	-1,210	1,370	-260	-40	8,500	-980	-470
Unemployment rate	4.7%	-0.8%	-0.5%	3.6%	-0.6%	-0.3%	4.4%	-0.8%	-0.1%	3.0%	-0.4%	-0.2%

	Dodge County			Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	46,000	90	30	42,200	-10	-820	7,900	120	30	33,600	-30	790
Employed	43,800	550	330	40,400	460	-440	7,400	240	40	32,200	360	810
Unemployed	2,200	-460	-300	1,840	-470	-370	520	-130	-10	1,490	-390	-30
Unemployment rate	4.7%	-1.0%	-0.7%	4.3%	-1.2%	-0.8%	6.5%	-1.7%	-0.1%	4.4%	-1.2%	-0.2%

\*\* Includes labor force participants residing in area. Estimates are **NOT** seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

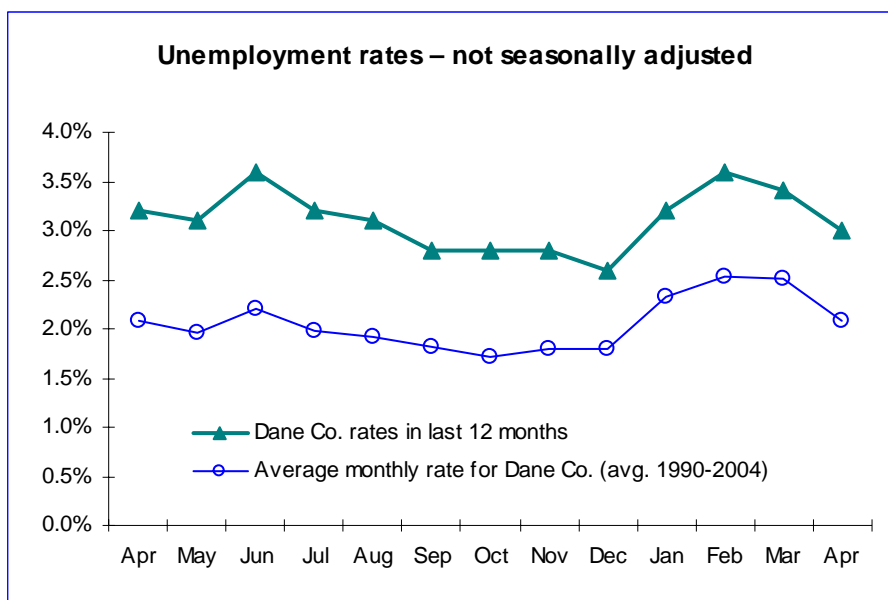
**Jefferson County's** unemployment rate fell more sharply than it usually does in April, leaving it closer to its typical level than it has been at any point in the last 12 months. Employment estimates for the construction sector grew 270 jobs or 18 percent between April 2003 and April 2004. The next 12 months (April 2004 to April 2005) saw growth of 100 jobs or 6.3 percent, which might suggest a period of cooling. Similarly, information, professional, business & other services employment estimates grew 240 jobs or 4.4 percent in the last 12 months, which is well below the 630 jobs or 11.9 percent added in the previous 12 months.

In **Marquette County**, the unemployment rate remains high compared to other Wisconsin counties and low

compared to its typical level for this time of year. Leisure & hospitality employment estimates are further above year-ago levels than they were in December 2004, but not as far above year-ago levels as they were in April 2004.

Construction employment estimates remain below year-ago levels, as they have been for the last 12 months.

**Sauk County's** unemployment rate remains below its typical level for this time of year, as it has been since January. Construction employment estimates are further above year-ago levels than they have been at any point in 2005. Leisure & hospitality employment estimates are further above year-ago levels than they have been at any point in the last 12 months.



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### Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			Madison MSA			Dodge County		
	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	2,810,300	34,200	26,600	338,300	5,300	4,200	34,300	740	430
Const., min'g & nat. resources	130,300	11,800	4,400	15,400	1,400	- 1,100	2,200	240	60
Manufacturing	499,400	- 1,500	2,100	32,300	200	400	10,400	90	20
Trade (w/wholesale & retail)	427,300	5,300	3,800	49,800	200	- 600	4,500	230	310
Transport, Whrsing, Utilities	108,300	2,300	2,400	8,700	100	300	900	10	- 20
Financial activities	157,700	300	100	27,700	0	100	820	10	0
Education & health services	382,900	- 1,100	8,100	34,600	200	1,100	4,300	0	80
Leisure & hospitality	246,800	10,200	4,200	28,000	800	100	2,300	170	- 30
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	435,000	6,300	1,600	60,800	1,500	4,000	3,400	- 30	70
Government	422,600	600	- 100	81,000	900	- 100	5,500	10	- 70

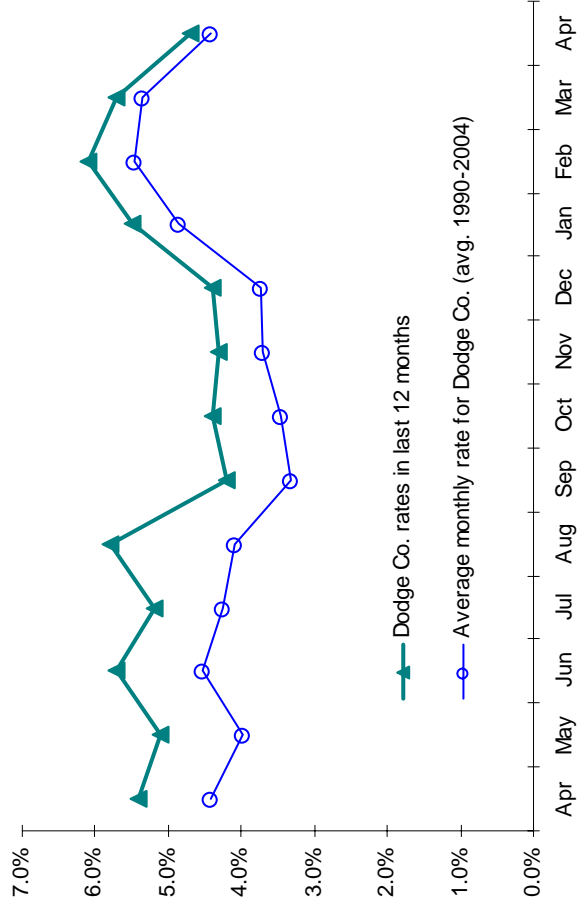
	Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Apr 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	36,400	470	- 200	4,100	160	50	36,100	620	760
Const., min'g & nat. resources	1,580	150	100	160	50	- 50	2,100	220	70
Manufacturing	9,600	- 70	- 350	1,240	0	0	6,500	- 30	60
Trade (w/wholesale & retail)	6,000	120	70	470	30	10	6,200	30	- 50
Transport, Whrsing, Utilities	1,200	20	- 10	70	0	0	680	30	- 20
Financial activities	1,020	0	30	130	0	10	1,870	- 20	210
Education & health services	4,500	30	30	340	0	20	3,500	10	50
Leisure & hospitality	3,100	160	- 30	460	50	20	6,700	150	420
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	5,500	150	240	340	10	20	3,000	130	- 80
Government	3,900	- 100	- 280	860	30	20	5,500	90	100

\*Includes jobs with employers in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision.

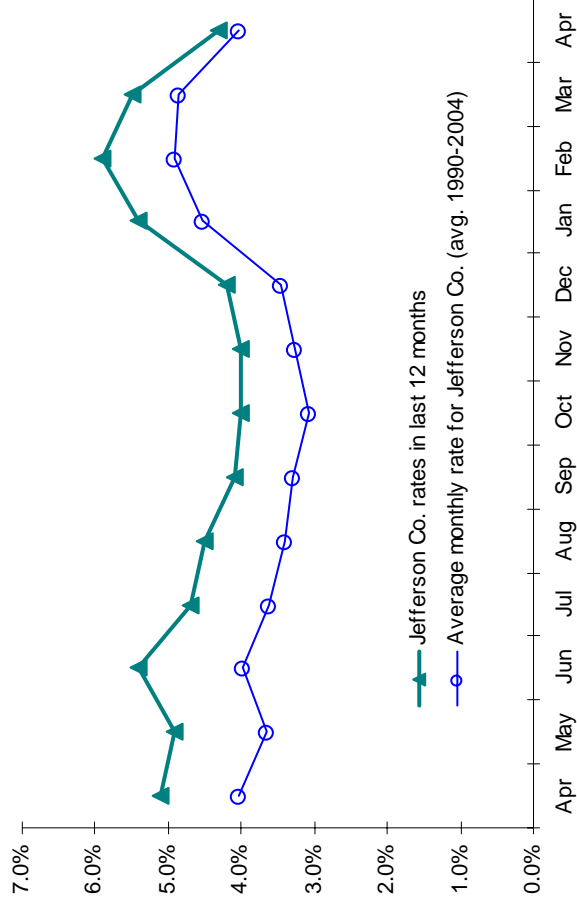
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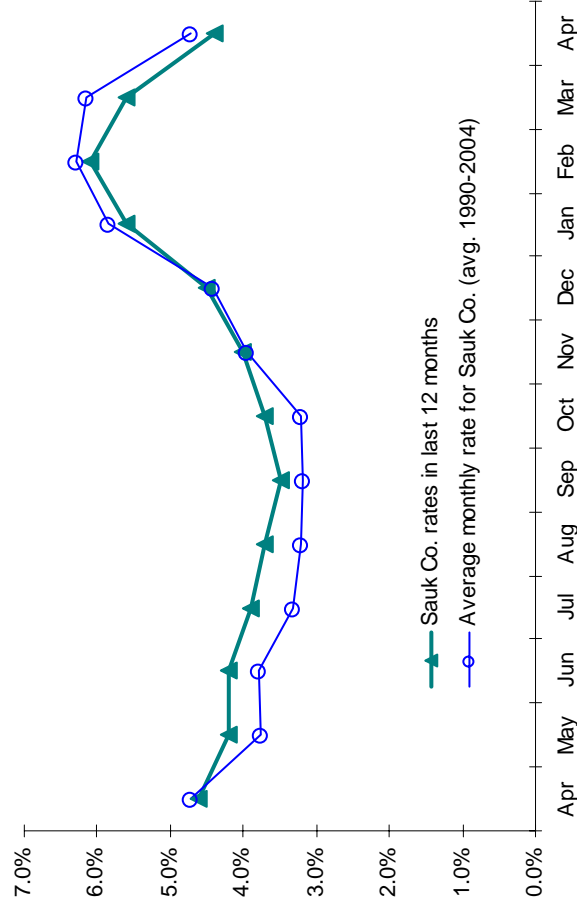
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